



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Chad

Prime Minister Interviewed on Transition, Other Issues

AB1808203693 Paris AFP in French 0502 GMT
18 Aug 93

[Excerpts] Ndjamen, 18 Aug (AFP)—The democratic transition which was decided upon by the National Conference last April "has not begun," Chadian Prime Minister Fidele Moungar said, adding that he was appointed to implement this reform.

"There are too many restraints and it is time that the reins are slackened," the young head of government continued in an interview with AFP. He was elected by the national conference a year after abandoning his post as surgeon at Peronne Hospital in eastern France. Unwilling to incriminate Head of State Idriss Deby, who shares executive power with him, or the Higher Transitional Council (CST), which is charged with legislative powers and making a smooth transition, Mr. Moungar said "the institutions must work better." [passage omitted]

"I formed a government of consensus. The CST was right in asking me to respect the guidelines, but the results have not been good because of flagrant agreement violations," he said.

Without bitterness, however, and choosing to create "consensus," he said "the CST is beginning to work properly; without taking sides, it must play a neutral role of reconciliation between the two transitional bodies of the presidency and the government." "We have not done enough," the head of government said. He approved the condition imposed by France on its last 75 million French francs (3.75 billion CFA francs) in budget aid, of which a part will be disbursed only in proportion to the customs revenue.

"There is only one thing that binds us all, the guidelines of the National Conference," he explained. He refused to envisage an agreement with rebel leader Abbas Koty, who just returned to Chad.

After a year of transition, democratic procedures should be successfully installed so that the municipal, legislative, and presidential elections can follow in 18 months, the prime minister explained. The country's most recent ethnic events worry him. "In Chad, everything is connected," he explained, describing his feelings after the heavy casualties in a clampdown on demonstrators in Ndjamen. "It is the first time that this has happened in our country," he said.

Equatorial Guinea

Several Killed in Rebellion; Morocco Withdraws 500 Troops

AB1808173293 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 18 Aug 93

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] With only weeks to go before Equatorial Guinea's first ever multiparty elections, there has been an eruption of violence on the remote island of Annobon. Several people are reported killed and injured in the alleged rebellion before security forces regained control. The government has been giving its own version of the events. It claims local officials were tortured in the uprising, and that foreign powers and opposition parties were behind it all. Here is Anthony Goldman:

[Begin Goldman recording] In an official statement broadcast on national radio and television last night, the government said the trouble began on the remote island of Annobon on Saturday [14 August]. According to the government, agitators from other parts of the country arrived on the island last week to stir up trouble. A Foreign Ministry official in Malabo told me today that the alleged agitators captured the island's governor and chief of police and had tortured them very badly. According to his version of events, the rebels then went on to the army garrison. In the ensuing confrontation, soldiers opened fire and killed two people. The rebellion was finally brought to an end by the arrival of 150 troops from the mainland, part of a new elite French-trained black uniform battalion, known locally as ninjas.

In its statement, the government blamed opposition parties and Spain in particular, for the trouble. It said Spain, the former colonial power, was hatching what it called a Machiavellian plot of destabilization. They want to see rivers of blood flow through our country, the statement added, but diplomats have told me that the trouble in fact began when the governor tried to force locals to cut grass on the landing strip. They say that as many as 20 Annobonese may have been killed as the security forces moved to quell the unrest. This is the latest soaring of tension in Equatorial Guinea as the country moves toward its first multiparty elections since independence in 1968. Most opposition parties say that they will boycott the 12 September poll, arguing that President Obiang has ensured that it will neither be free nor fair.

In a separate move which could further add to tension, Morocco yesterday withdrew 500 troops who have acted as the president's bodyguards since he came to power in 1979. [end recording]

Djibouti**Armed Resistance Leader Assesses Military Situation***PM1608150293 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
13 Aug 93 p 7*

[Interview with Mohammad Kadami, "leader of Djibouti's armed resistance," by Ahmad Hasan Dahli in Paris; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Dahli] How do you assess the situation in northern Djibouti after the government forces' recapture of all the sensitive positions, including the towns of Randa and 'Asa Gayla?

[Kadami] Contrary to what we have read and heard, there were no fierce battles in these very important positions for the simple reason that these areas are plains, open to the Army's tanks, armor, and long-range artillery, not to mention military helicopters. They [the government forces] also had accurate information about our positions, forces, and equipment from the French forces, which have been on our national soil since independence in 1977. [passage omitted]

After assessing the military situation, we only fought tactical battles to cover our withdrawal from all the positions we could not defend. [passage omitted]

[Dahli] What is the truth about the claims that your forces have launched a counterattack on all the northern towns that fell to the government forces in June and July?

[Kadami] We have begun implementing the first phase of the counterattack in the north and west of the country. [passage omitted]

[Dahli] What about the peace initiatives sponsored by some African, Arab, and European states?

[Kadami] Having aborted all the peace initiatives undertaken by brothers and friends, the dictatorial regime recently claimed that it has settled the crisis militarily, regained control of all parts of the country, and crushed our forces, but nobody believed that. Some states in the region have even advised Gouled to solve the country's problems by diplomatic means before it is too late.

[Dahli] How do you explain the recent shift in the balance of powers in favor of the government although you had the military initiative at one point?

[Kadami] The regime received massive material aid from a number of Arab and Western states to remedy the

state's budget deficit, having allocated the national revenue for military purposes and for the continuation of the war against half the people of Djibouti. The government has also purchased modern military equipment from Italy, Russia, and China and enlisted the help of the Somali forces of Ali Mahdi Mohamed, which belong to the Abghal branch of the al-Haweyah tribe.

[Dahli] What justification is there for Ali Mahdi's supporters to fight alongside the Djibouti Government forces?

[Kadami] When the United Nations decided to disarm all the Somali forces, Ali Mahdi Mohamed moved most of his forces and heavy arms to Djibouti Army camps, and he saw no reason why his forces should not fight alongside the Army, which had welcomed them and paid all their expenses. [passage omitted]

Kenya**Relief Supplies Received for Somalia From PRC***EA1808210893 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting
Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 18 Aug 93*

[Text] The United Nations [Office of the] High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] today received medical supplies and other relief items worth 28 million shillings from the PRC. The donations, presented to UNHCR representative in Kenya Mr. Carrol Faubert and by the PRC ambassador to Kenya, Mr. Chen Pingchu, will be distributed among the Somali people through the cross-border operations in the Juba Valley and Gedo regions in [southern] Somalia. The medical equipment will, however, be used in public health institutions in Somalia that have been rehabilitated under the cross-border operation in February. In February this year, China made a similar donation of medicines to the UNHCR worth seven million shillings.

Somalia**Aidid Envoy Reportedly Visited Libya To Seek Funds, Arms***PM1808160293 London AL-WASAT in Arabic
16-22 Aug 93 p1*

[Unattributed report: "From Our Own Sources"]

[Text] African sources in Cairo have confirmed that an envoy of General Mohamed Farah Aidid, chairman of the Somali National Alliance, visited Libya at the beginning of this month with the aim of obtaining financial aid and arms to face the siege imposed by UN forces on the militias loyal to the "rebel" general in Mogadishu.

De Klerk Comments on Teachers' Strike, Other Topics

MB1808160293 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1503 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Statement at international news conference by President F.W. de Klerk at the Union Buildings in Pretoria—live; italicized passages in Afrikaans]

[Text] [broadcast in progress] ...opinion, it is its ability to absorb the cost of this adjustment, will be materially eased by the good progress which is being made in constitutional negotiations. The removal of all remaining sanctions, a marked reduction in the level of violence, and an end to economically harmful or disruptive mass action and inflammatory statements will even be more helpful. The government now calls upon all parties to contribute to the resolution of the problems addressed in this statement through the processes of bona fide negotiations.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, let me say about this, we have kept our word, notwithstanding the fact that we've had setbacks in the negotiations, notwithstanding the fact that there has not been a marked reduction in the level of violence, and notwithstanding the fact that the sanctions did not ease as was expected then—the final sanctions were not removed—we nonetheless made an amount available, and we are now negotiating about how that can be best applied. It is a relatively substantial amount. But the claims which we are now meeting fall totally outside the concept of limited categories, or a relative limited amount. The claims now made, if acceded to, would result in marked tax increases on that or something else. That would be the only way in which we could meet it, and this, I made it clear right from the beginning, also on that day, is simply not possible.

If we want a sound economy in this country, if we want the downward trend of inflation to continue, and the downward trend of interest rates to continue—and everybody benefits from it—then we must adhere to our budget and to strong budgetary control. It is for those reasons that I called all the employee organizations of the state together in January, to announce to them that for the sake of the country it would be impossible for the government to consider more than a 5-percent general increase. This was a limited concession, and we are negotiating now on that. There is no possibility that we can consider the very high amounts now claimed by SADTU [South African Democratic Teachers' Union]. I would also like to emphasize that SADTU is but one of the teachers' organizations. We are not facing similar claims from the others, and joint negotiations have taken place today—I haven't received a report as to how that has exactly gone.

What I want to emphasize, therefore, is that the best interest of all our children demands a sound economy. We are already spending 20 percent of the country's budget—it's among, if not the highest in the world—on education. The children now need the teachers. The

country cannot afford—without harming the interests of every child and every parent in this country—cannot afford the type of claims now made. Therefore, the accusation that we are not keeping our word is not true. We've never raised an expectation that we could address anything beyond limited categories within the teaching profession, and limited categories within the civil service, and we are willing and able to keep that undertaking but cannot go beyond it.

Secondly, I want to say something about Afrikaans. This morning I listened to a very interesting discussion program on "Monitor." I was somewhat shocked because I got the impression that all participants in that discussion accepted that Afrikaans as an official language will disappear. I want to state very clearly that it is my personal view, and that of the National Party and the government, and it is an unshakeable view, that the official status of Afrikaans cannot be taken away. To continue chipping away at a firm recognition—constitutionally entrenched recognition—of the two official languages is not just putting a spark to a powder keg, but rather putting a torch to the powder keg. The future of our language diversity lies not in taking away the rights of any language, but in expanding the rights of languages that have not yet received full recognition. On this issue we have an open mind, but the government is not prepared to diminish the status of Afrikaans. I want to state clearly that to us this issue is non-negotiable.

In this regard, I want to say that the perception which exists—that the government is just receiving and accepting orders from Kempton Park on matters in general—is totally false. The government, alongside the National Party, is a negotiating party there, and the government commits itself to agreements that it wants to commit itself to. Once it has committed itself to an agreement, then naturally it will carry it out, because it is pleased with the agreement. The government remains, however, the executive authority in this country, and the Parliament remains the legislative authority in this country until a legally elected government, and this will be a government of national unity, takes over responsibilities, and until a legally elected, new legislative authority takes over the legislative authority from the current parliament. The government, however, will be fully committed to every agreement it makes, and it will implement them honestly.

I also want to say something about Walvis Bay. There seems to be a perception, amongst some members of the public at least, that as far as Walvis Bay is concerned, the government has made an absolute switch in its point of view. This is not true. In previous negotiations with Namibia, we made it clear, and it was also made clear in public statements: Our attitude was that the question of Walvis Bay should be dealt with—because it's a long-term final change of the borders of South Africa—should be dealt with not by a government already in a phase of transition and that that should be a matter which should be left to decisionmaking when a new dispensation comes into being. We then negotiated a transitional

situation with regard to Walvis Bay—namely, joint administration with regard to certain identified functions—and that is being implemented at the moment. The question of the boundaries, of a new regional dispensation in South Africa, has brought the Walvis Bay issue forward on the agenda, and it then came in a logical manner onto the agenda of the multiparty conference.

We could not accept the original resolutions which were proposed there. We have accepted the resolution which we then negotiated. That resolution is not in conflict with the previous viewpoint of the government. We have foreseen the possibility that Walvis Bay could be incorporated into Namibia. We have always held the point of view that, should that be considered, it can only take place if proper protection of the vested rights of individuals—of all South African citizens, of the South African Government, states, this Republic of South Africa, and of companies and the like—are properly looked at and proper agreements entered into to safeguard all vested interests of South Africans and South African interests in Walvis Bay.

This is what has now been decided: that negotiations will take place between us and the government. I can say here that arrangements have already been made for a meeting between our minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, and their minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Ben Gurirab, to discuss the outstanding matters. I don't know exactly on what date that meeting will take place.

It is an emotional issue, I realize, for the people directly involved, and that is why they're going to rely on us to assure that their vested interests will be properly safeguarded, and that any transfer of Walvis Bay will go hand in hand with such safeguarding and effective measures to assure the protection of vested interests.

Lastly, about my visits to the four countries in South America. It will be—I don't have the exact order with me—it will be Uruguay, Chile, Paraguay, and Argentina. I have on two previous occasions... [pauses] In my term of office I was forced by circumstances in South Africa to cancel appointments to go there, in the one case at relatively short notice. We regard the whole of Latin America as an important area for the expansion of South African interests. They have in many cases dynamic and virulent [as heard] economies. In comparison with other continents throughout the world, the South African business relationships with those countries are way behind. There is tremendous room for expansion of interaction and of trade, of exports, of doing business, of doing such good business that it can materially affect the interests of all South Africans, that it can contribute to job creation. Therefore I will be going there with this objective in mind—to sell South Africa's interests. That is what I was elected for as state president to do. That's my job, and that will be my purpose in going there, and I have good reason to believe that all South Africans will reap the benefit of this visit.

For the reasons explained, we are approaching this trip somewhat differently than other overseas visits, previous visits by me, and we will be taking with us a fairly strong complement of business representatives from the South African business community to ensure that they will also, through interaction and the openings created by this visit, immediately move into a position of cementing the business possibilities which present themselves in that part of the world.

Good government, continuous government, cannot come to a standstill because we are negotiating a new dispensation, and therefore, in advance, I welcome all of you who will be accompanying us. I know that a complement of the South African press corps will be going with us. We hope that you will enjoy it, and we hope that you will also find the trip not only educative, but also an opportunity to create new opportunity for the benefit of all South Africans.

[Unidentified moderator] Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. *Are there any questions on these issues, or any other issues?*

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. President, this question is: Inkatha have not yet returned to the multiparty talks. You made a reference to them in Cape Town. There were bilaterals yesterday, I believe. How long can the talks mark time until Inkatha comes back? If you look at the demands that they made over the weekend, they want decisions taken in their absence to be undone. Are you willing to consider doing that? Is their time running out?

[De Klerk] We have, as you know, we have had a whole series of bilateral discussions with them. During the last bilateral discussion they made specific suggestions with regard to the agenda of continued bilateral discussions, and may I add, intensified bilateral discussions. We have discussed it this morning, and we decided that not only are we prepared to do so, but we are anxious to see such further and intensified bilateral discussions becoming reality, and therefore we will be working and doing our level best to now, in intensified bilateral discussions, continue to find a solution to the problem, continue to find ways and means to remove the stumbling blocks. We will be looking at all available options to ensure that final agreements will have the support of all major role players, that in the final analysis—not the formalities, not the route along which you attain the goal—that the real goal and the substantial goal is that in the final analysis a new constitution must have the support of all the major role players. [sentence as heard] We will be continuing our efforts to attain that.

Teacher Strikes Reportedly 'Snowballing' Countrywide

MB1808131393 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1100 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] The schools stayaway resulting from the strike by teachers who are members of the South African Democratic Teachers' Union is reported to be snowballing

with a 100-percent stayaway in some areas. A spokesman for the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Representatives said that less than half of the senior secondary schools in the western Cape were functioning. There was a 20-percent stayaway at primary schools.

The situation is reported to be worst in Natal, where all schools under the House of Representatives are closed because of a complete stayaway. Meetings are being held this week in an effort to resolve disputes over rationalization and salaries.

Government Opposes International Community in Commission

MB1808072793 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] Our political news staff reports that the government has become the victim of sufficient consensus during a debate on the Independent Electoral Commission Bill in the Negotiating Council in Kempton Park.

It was decided on the basis of sufficient consensus to continue the debate despite the government's objection to a clause providing for people drawn from the international community to serve on the commission. The government wants international members to serve in an advisory capacity for which the bill makes provision.

According to the latest draft issues such as intimidation, disruption of political meetings, and other electoral irregularities, will be submitted to special electoral tribunals. The commission is to receive more powers and responsibilities. The commission will be able to appoint electoral tribunals for geographic areas. These tribunals will have the authority to penalize political parties and candidates if they infringe the electoral code of conduct or the electoral act. There will also be appeals tribunals.

It was the third draft of the bill and experts will alter it further after discussion.

ANC, Labor Party Dispute Over Election Pact Suspension

MB1908075893 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] A dispute has developed between the ANC [African National Congress] and the Labor Party over an alleged decision by the ANC to suspend an election pact between the two parties.

Speaking in Cape Town, the regional secretary of the Labor Party in the western Cape, Mr. Tommy Abrahams, has accused the ANC leader in the region, Dr. Allan Boesak, of trying to win the votes of people he had persuaded under the old dispensation not to vote. He said this attitude would only serve to drive the colored vote away from what he called democratic forces. He warned that the Labor Party could also embark on a don't vote campaign.

Buthelezi 'Not Convinced' Constitution To Bring Democracy

MB1908081593 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Mangosuthu Buthelezi says he's not convinced that the current approach to the writing of the South African constitution will lead to democracy. This is despite repeated assurances from the ANC [African National Congress].

Addressing the media during a four-day visit to Zambia, the Inkatha president said he rejects the process as it's clearly designed to allow the ANC to pursue its goal of absolute power in a unitary state. Buthelezi says such a state will be characterized by violence. He says Inkatha rejects the current approach because it will lead to a bloodbath.

Inkatha Rejects De Klerk Approach

MB1908121293 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] The Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] has rejected a so-called two-tabled approach to negotiations suggested by the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, as a way to resolve an impasse in negotiations.

President de Klerk told a news conference in Pretoria yesterday that democracy negotiations could be completed without the IFP. He hinted at a process in which talks would continue at the World Trade Center without Inkatha which walked out of the negotiations on the 2nd of last month, while intensive bilateral discussions would be held with the party to include its input.

However, an IFP negotiator, Mr. Walter Felgate, has dismissed the option. He said the party would not help to implement decisions with which it did not agree and from which it was excluded. Mr. Felgate said bilateral talks should be used to explore ways of making it possible for the IFP to return to the talks rather than on ways of keeping the party away. The IFP withdrew from the negotiations after delegates, through the process of sufficient consensus, set April the 27th next year as the date for South Africa's first non-racial elections.

Bophuthatswana Pledges Commitment to Peace Accord

MB1808072893 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] The Bophuthatswana minister for foreign affairs, Mr. Tom Setiloane, said that his government is fully committed to the National Peace Accord.

Mr. Setiloane was speaking in Mmabato after a meeting between the president of Bophuthatswana, Mr. Lucas Mangope, and the chairman of the peace accord, Mr. John Hall. Mr. Setiloane said although his government subscribed to the accord, it was concerned by the fact that signatories to the accord were not honoring its terms.

Mr. Hall said he had informed President Mangope that a meeting of all the signatories to the accord was being planned in order to implement its principles at regional and local level. He said he was trying to get all the participants at the negotiating forum to sign the accord. Mr. Hall added that President Mangope had indicated that he was not ready to sign the accord.

Bophuthatswana Not To Promise Redistribution of Land

MB1808131793 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1119 GMT 18 Aug 93

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by the Information Service of Bophuthatswana: "No Nationalising of Land in Bophuthatswana"]

[Text] In an address to the annual OFS [Orange Free State] Agricultural Union's congress in Bloemfontein today, President Lucas Mangope said the Bophuthatswana government had no intention of falling into the political trap of promising redistribution of land to gain votes.

He said Bophuthatswana could hold her head high in the area of agriculture in any company, despite the ravishes of drought and attempts by unscrupulous elements to turn land issues into political footballs.

"It is already evident that confusion about ownership of land as opposed to the government's jurisdiction over land is being cleverly manipulated by political opportunists out to create expectations among the landless of a future utopia in South Africa," President Mangope said.

"The fact is that communist and even socialist elements are primarily concerned with the nationalisation of land and other resources as state assets. Equal distribution of assets is therefore used as a slogan to gain political ascendancy and state ownership of resources. The type of democracy that follows from this form of state control and the resulting neglect of individualism and private ownership, is total dominance where everybody is allowed a vote on condition that it is executed as prescribed.

"This form of political suicide is totally unacceptable and should be resisted with all our might. You can be assured that Bophuthatswana has no intention whatsoever of falling into this 'death trap'," he said.

He said Bophuthatswana viewed land as one of the most valuable assets the creator could give to a country or a people, but that it was an asset that could not be increased.

"It is for this reason, that the Bophuthatswana government makes no apologies for the fact that we accept our responsibility to govern, plan and control our land affairs. We do not want to prescribe how land must be

used, but definitely exercise more control over the allocation of land for different purposes, as well as ensuring that land is not exploited for political purposes."

"Secondly, there should be a clear differentiation between ownership of land and the use of land. Ownership is regulated through title deeds and is a basic right and freedom of every individual. Section 17 of Bophuthatswana's Land Act (Act 18 of 1977), states clearly that "the right to own private and communal property is acknowledged and respected."

"It is for this reason, that the Bophuthatswana government makes no apologies for the fact that we accept our responsibility to govern, plan and control our land affairs. We do not want to prescribe how land must be used, but definitely exercise more control over the allocation of land for different purposes, as well as ensuring that land is not exploited for political purposes."

President Mangope added that his government viewed the free market system as the best way to ensure that land is used optimally, and that it would only resort to state control of land as a last resort to manage land effectively.

"Even when it becomes clear that land is in terms of national benefit needed for mass infrastructure or other public use, we abide by market mechanisms. Taking land from the individual is only seen as a last resort, and then with full recourse to the law to protect the rights of the individual in terms of the constitution and with a fair, market orientated recompense," he said.

Further on Mangope's Comments

MB1808145593 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1355 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] Bloemfontein Aug 18 SAPA—Addressing the annual Orange Free State Agricultural Union congress in Bloemfontein on Wednesday, Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope said his government had no intention of promising redistribution of land to gain votes. "It is already evident that confusion about ownership of land as opposed to the government's jurisdiction over land is being cleverly manipulated by political opportunists out to create expectations among the landless of a future utopia in South Africa," Mr Mangope said.

On regional development in the Orange Free State and Bophuthatswana, Mr Mangope said the most viable options for an autonomous regional state in the area were those which included the Orange Free State. He said it was naive and dangerous in the extreme to deny various peoples the right to exercise the qualities and beliefs which make each group different and unique.

The Bophuthatswana leader repeated his homeland's position on the negotiation process. "On our two main prerequisites we refuse to budge. These are that the boundaries, functions and powers of our regional state are determined and entrenched by the present inclusive Negotiating Council and not by a majoritarian interim

government after elections. Second, that a final constitution is also written and entrenched by the present Negotiating Council," he said.

He added that Bophuthatswana, like its associates in the Concerned Southern African Group, was deeply disturbed by the method of arriving at important decisions via the "sufficient consensus" mechanism. "We do not believe that free and fair elections can be held in the current climate of intolerance and violence. The April 27 date for elections was sold by the African National Congress and the government on the basis that violence would fall off once a date was fixed."

He warned leaders that unless they were careful South Africa was the only region in the world today where communism stood a good chance of emerging triumphant out of chaos. "It is a matter of record that the individuals who wield power in the ANC owe their first loyalty to the South African Communist Party."

Commonwealth Observer Team Arrives To Monitor Violence

MB1908110693 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0915 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Johannesburg Aug 19 SAPA—A new team of eight Commonwealth observers arrived at Jan Smuts Airport on Thursday to take over the third phase of the Commonwealth's involvement in monitoring violence in South Africa.

Before the team's departure from London, Commonwealth Secretary-General Chief Emeka Anyoku told the observers the Commonwealth attached the utmost importance to the work they were about to undertake.

"As the constitutional negotiations hang in the balance it is violence which threatens to compound the obstacles in the way of change and push South Africa into the abyss," Chief Anyokou said.

He added this was the reason why the Commonwealth was determined to do all it could to assist peaceful negotiations and "discourage those bent on bloodshed and mayhem".

The current group, which includes a media expert, had the added capacity to assist South Africa in dealing with the challenges of establishing the independence of the media and in the preparation for free and fair elections, the secretary-general said.

The third mission, which will be joined by its Chairman Eustance Seignoret in September, will remain in South Africa until next year's planned general election on April 27.

Comsa [Commonwealth-South Africa] III hopes to consolidate the work begun in the first two phases, the group said in a statement on their arrival in Johannesburg.

The third Commonwealth observer mission to South Africa comprises Adbul Rahman Bin Ismail, an electoral specialist from Malaysia; Haji Abu Daniel Bin Dato Haji Abu Zar, a royal Brunei police superintendent; Mr C. Peter Daniel, a Canadian communications and culture specialist; Foo Kia Juali, a police superintendent from Singapore; Timothy Glanville, an Australian electoral officer; Haji Hasrin Bin Haji Sabtu, another senior Brunei policeman; retired Nigerian Army officer Maj-Gen Charles Ndiomu; and the head of community relations of Scotland Yard, Chief Superintendent Peter Stevens.

Comsa III will be based in Johannesburg and Durban.

Teacher Released, Not Charged in Church Killings

MB1808151193 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1301 GMT 18 Aug 93

[By Enrico Kemp]

[Text] Cape Town Aug 18 SAPA—Khayelitsha Primary School teacher Vuyo Tekani, arrested two days after the July 25 St James' Church massacre in Cape Town, was released from detention about noon on Wednesday, his attorney Jimmy Yekiso confirmed. Mr Tekani, a Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] member, was held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. The PAC claimed he was assaulted while in custody, but police denied the charge.

Mr Tekani's detention was extended for a second 10-day period by the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court on August 6 after police transferred him to East London for questioning in connection with an attack on the Highgate Hotel in the city. Police claimed Mr Tekani's car was used to transport one of the assailants wounded during the hotel shooting. However, he was not linked to the automatic rifle and grenade attack on St James' Church in Kenilworth, in which 11 people died.

Mr Tekani was returned to Cape Town on Tuesday after police indicated they did not intend applying for a further extension of his detention. A relative at his Gugulethu home said Mr Tekani was not available to speak to the media on Wednesday.

3 Arrested in Connection With Deaths

MB1908064793 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Two young men and a youth have been arrested in Cross Roads in connection with a massacre at St. James' Church in Cape Town, in which 11 people were killed.

The police liaison officer in the western Cape, Captain John Stellenberg, said the three had been held since Tuesday in terms of the Criminal Procedures Act. The two men are 18 and 19, while the youth is 17. Captain Stellenberg said the three would have to be charged or

released within 48 hours in terms of the act. A 17-year-old youth appeared in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court earlier this week in connection with the massacre.

Paper Claims U.S. Intends To 'Annex' Somalia, RSA

*MB1808162193 Pretoria PATRIOT in Afrikaans
13 Aug 93 p 6*

[Unattributed report: "USA Plans To Annex Somalia and South Africa?"—published in English]

[Text]

SOMALIA:

This underdeveloped African country in the horn of Africa has the world's Largest untouched oil reserves, and under the pretence of helping its hungry poor black inhabitants with food, the USA is presently violating its sovereignty with impunity.

The big question in every single international political and economic forum is whether this US action in Somalia has set a precedent for the rest of Africa, and if so, which African country is the next to be violated?

The USA has already completed its South African embassy with the specific intention of making it the USA's Africa headquarters. The next step is to upgrade the runways of the airport at Midrand with a view to making Midrand the new "capital" of Africa south of the Sahara.

Their military-style "help" in Somalia was certainly a first of its kind: going in with the military to take food and other humanitarian aid to starving people whose gaunt faces and wasted bodies haunted the world daily in news columns.

It was called "Operation Restore Hope." It did, but to whom? Primarily the four major American oil companies who had signed drilling rights three years ago when the country actually had a government.

Somalia has now become a ward of the UN. So now we have the spectacle of something that is supposed to be a sovereign entity—Somalia—becoming the ward of something that is not a sovereign entity, namely the UN.

It seems disingenuous to recruit young Americans to join the USA Armed Forces and then send them off to fight and possibly die under a UN flag wearing a blue beret.

To put this straight, the USA wants to alleviate hunger and starvation in Somalia, which has resulted in long, drawn-out, painful deaths, so, using the UN as a fig leaf, the USA sent in AC-130H helicopter gunships to dispatch the Somalis more efficiently, thus solving the problem of their long drawn-out suffering.

The USA has more than a few (already about 4,000) good men looking for the warlord General Mohammed Farah Aidid, whom the USA has "identified" as the

chief culprit among the 12 or more warlords. The problem is the American soldiers cannot find him, but they know he is there because they see him on CNN-TV every night.

Later the UN said "the arrest of Aidid is not a priority". What?! After 4,000 marines searched and "Specter" gunships blasted his garage in Mogadishu for four straight nights!

Come on! Now, frustrated by failure to fasten Aidid, the U.S. Administration turns its attention temporarily to Iraq.

Hoping to bag Saddam in Baghdad they sent him a message with a weekend missile attack on his Intel HQ [headquarters]. The mission was a success in that it diverted the attention of Sunday talk shows away from the economy and the negative budget.

COMEDY OF ERRORS

The irony in this comedy of errors is not lost on the enemies of the USA. This might be funny except for the fact that they regard the USA, dressed up in UN blue, as the Keystone Kops. From their perspective they see the USA trimming its military budget by 50 percent drawing down its overseas forces, cutting back on weapons production (as well as research and development) plus effeminising and sodomising its former male-only military. Sooner or late some Third World lilliputian is going to test the strength and resolve of the USA with their latest technological toy: a nuclear weapon purchased from the stockpile of surplus Soviet inventory. They might feel obliged to use it sooner or later because of the expiration on the awful device. It's called terrorism. Remember the World Trade Centre in New York? We know that if the truck had been parked at a different angle it would have dropped the entire building. Anyone who is determined has a good chance of success.

Meanwhile few have noticed the liberal incongruity: wanting the USA's military to be trimmed, but still expecting to be protected and to protect its power and influence to every country around the world while the sport fans squat in front of their TV sets.

The traditional, if generally unsuccessful, UN role under Chapter 6 of the UN Charter is that of "peace keeper".

Now the so called multi-nation force is finding (a la Somalia) they must soon escalate to Chapter 7—premeditated use of force. This euphemistically called "peacekeeping" newspeak is surely upon us! Imagine the surprise in Bosnia.

SOUTH AFRICA

The USA is preparing for a full-scale military strike against South Africa [SA]. It has already completed one of the three military strike air bases in the bushes of the Kalahari Desert in Botswana. Two more are to be built,

respectively in Swaziland and Zimbabwe. All three will be ten minutes flying time from South Africa's capitol, Pretoria.

Whilst the American government is closing down one military airport in the USA after the other, accompanied with the hardship of towns losing their economy in the process and thousands of workers being retrenched, the USA is spending thousands of millions of dollars in the African bushes preparing for perhaps the biggest ever military strike against a "peaceful Christian community".

In the process the USA twisted the arms of certain government members in South Africa to destroy South Africa's nuclear capability, as well as South Africa's world leading arms production system, in advance.

It is believed that CIA-officers are posted at every South African port in order to prevent the import of any form of firearm or ammunition.

The American government appears to be hell bent on their demands on their friends within the SA cabinet to make sure that the world famous South African armed forces and especially the skilled Boer fighters will be without the necessary ammo when the USA is ready to strike.

WHY STRIKE AT SA?

South Africa is the one country in the world that has always been siding with the USA in every single war that has been fought. Why then wanting to destroy an old friend as well as all of South Africa's inhabitants, white and black?

Simply because it wants South Africa's vast resources of uranium, the power source of the future, for itself.

Presently it appears that the U.S. State Department is expecting tremendous civil unrest and turmoil in South Africa as a direct result of their interference in South Africa.

Surrounded by the high steel fence and concrete walls, the new U.S. Embassy in Pretoria is the second largest fortress of its kind in the world.

American government sources believe that the State Department is expecting similar instability to result in South Africa to that which swept Iran in 1979 and led to the American embassy hostage crisis.

Accordingly, the new American embassy in South Africa is a self-contained city capable of surviving riots, bombardment, chemical warfare, even a lengthy siege.

It has its own hospital, radio and TV [television] station, electrical power plant, water and air purification system and helicopter landing pad. This entire setup has already been planned about 15 years ago when the USA decided behind the scenes of its State Department to eventually overthrow the SA Government some time in the future. Among the 510 employees are 180 CIA spies. Electronic

surveillance equipment at this strategically located espionage centre is believed to enable them to monitor telephone conversations in Pretoria and elsewhere in South Africa.

South African Press Review for 19 Aug

MB1908135193

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

SADTU Strike Unfair on Black Pupils—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 17 August in its page 6 editorial "cannot think of anything more irresponsible than the strike by members of the South African Democratic Teachers' Union [SADTU]," which began 16 August. THE CITIZEN points out that SADTU General-Secretary Randall van den Heever has his two daughters at a private school that is not affected by the strike. The fact that Van den Heever's daughters "can go on with their education, unaffected by a strike, and a couple of million Black children can't, is a sad commentary on Mr van den Heever's lack of fairness."

THE STAR

Teacher Strike "Political Manoeuvre"—"Amid the acrimony over the strike by 70,000 teachers, one point stands out: the main victims are the estimated 2 million pupils affected by the strike," points out a page 16 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 August. "The tragedy—for that is what the strike is—is compounded because the schools which have been hit hardest are in the black townships." "The suspicion remains that SADTU is flexing its newly acquired muscle and that its agenda is not devoid of political manoeuvre. Its decision to press ahead with the strike—now into its fourth day—in the middle of negotiations with the education authorities constitutes prima facie evidence of politicking."

BUSINESS DAY

Taiwan To Remain Trading Partner—"The statement that a new South African government will recognise mainland China in place of Taiwan is not wrong, merely premature," notes a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 19 August. "Whatever the ANC [African National Congress] may say in its embarrassment so soon after Nelson Mandela returned from Taiwan with a promise of \$10m [million] election contribution, few people here, or indeed in either of the Chinas, can expect anything other than the opening of formal diplomatic ties with Beijing." Nelson Mandela "made no secret of his belief that Beijing should be recognised; he was also at pains to reassure Taiwan that this need not jeopardise its status as a major trading partner and foreign investor. Apart from that election contribution, he returned with promises of help for skills training and agricultural development. That should be

seen as an investment in future economic ties—an acknowledgement of future realities, not an attempt to buy off the inevitable.”

SOWETAN

Pattern of “Racial Conflict” at Education Institutions—
Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 19 August in a

page 8 editorial says the “racial conflict” at the Vaal Technikon “is part of a simmering pattern at the various education institutions which are trying to be normal in abnormal situations. Even at some of the most liberal universities the black student bodies are plainly unhappy with what they perceive as undemocratic and sometimes skewed decisions in favour of the dominant race group.”

Angola

Government Air Force Bombs Huambo 18 Aug

MB1908063293 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 0500 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Angolan Air Force planes yesterday bombed Huambo, killing an undetermined number of civilians in the central highland city. The armed UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] opposition radio Vorgan [Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel] said the aircraft dropped [word indistinct] of bombs on the city where Jonas Savimbi's UNITA set up base after rejecting the outcome of elections it lost last October. An Angolan Government spokesman, meanwhile, said that government troops had recaptured Cacongo in the northern oil rich enclave of Cabinda. Cacongo had been in UNITA hands for nearly 11 months.

Mozambique

Cease-Fire Commission Discusses Rome Accord Violations

MB1808114293 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] The Cease-Fire Commission [CCF] has concluded that the death of a Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] member following an assault by two members of the Republic of Mozambique police in Mozambique Island was not on account of his affiliation to Afonso Dhlakama's organization. Renamo had reported the case as it considered it to be persecution and murder of its members in Nampula Province. In yesterday's meeting, the CCF commission recommended that the case be considered a criminal act since the people involved are not soldiers. Thus, the case will be handed over to the National Commission for Police Affairs for an appropriate action.

Moreover, the CCF chairman recommended that Renamo should immediately release two woodcutters detained in Manica Province, allegedly for operating in an area under its control. He also recommended that Renamo's ban on the cutting of wood in areas under its control should be referred to the National Commission for Administrative Affairs. The CCF also decided that Renamo troops deployed in Dunda, Manica Province, in January, an area allegedly under government control, should withdraw under the supervision of the United Nations to positions they held before the signing of the peace accord. The commission said Renamo's occupation of the area was a violation of the General Peace Accord.

Concerning the government's complaint that Renamo was hindering reconstruction of Mapai-Milange road in Zambezia Province, the chairman of the CCF decided to withdraw the matter since the plaintiff did not appear during investigations on the issue. Radio Mozambique has learned that many of the decisions of the investigations presented yesterday were accepted by both sides.

Government, Renamo Officials on Chissano-Dhlakama Meeting

MB1808190593 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano's diplomatic adviser Francisco Madeira has said the General Peace Accord can solve all the problems of peace in Mozambique without adding new conditions. Francisco Madeira, who was speaking to Portuguese News Agency LUSA, said the Peace Accord is exhaustive and responds to all issues. He noted that extra conditions are dangerous. The president's adviser stressed that the meeting between Joaquim Chissano and Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo], scheduled to be held this week will have an open agenda.

Renamo representative in Lisbon Luis Goveia told LUSA that a number of issues stipulated in the General Peace Accord need to be discussed in depth.

Zambia

Chiluba Tells MMD Cadres Not To Harass Defecting MP's

MB1808052493 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation in English 1800 GMT 17 Aug 93

[Text] President Chiluba has stressed that MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] cadres should not resort to harassing and insulting members of parliament who have defected, because the defectors have already destroyed themselves. He said, instead, that cadres must work at strengthening their party in their areas. Mr. Chiluba was speaking at State House today, when hundreds of party cadres marched from town to demonstrate their solidarity with him following the resignations of several members of parliament. The president pointed out that it is not wrong for party members to have ambitions as long as proper channels are followed. He warned that [words indistinct] in consensus will not be tolerated.

Official Denies 'Crisis of Confidence'

MB1808183493 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] President Chiluba of Zambia's MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government has taken quite a beating in the past week: Eleven party members, including a number of former ministers, have resigned. They've accused the government of a lack of accountability, of corruption, and drug trafficking by high-placed officials, and there's much talk of further defections. On the line to Lusaka, Josephine Hazeley asked Labor Minister Michael Sata if the resignations had caused a crisis of confidence in the party:

[Begin recording] [Sata] There is no crisis at all. There is no crisis of confidence. It's a crisis of individuals. You know, one would even get worried, I would be more worried if the grass-root, the constituency officials, the branch officials, the district officials, who have no posts, who are not [word indistinct] resigning, like it happened to UNIP [United National Independence Party]. [sentence incomplete as heard] Then one starts getting worried because that's where everybody relies. It relies on those party officials.

[Hazeley] Now, but I mean you are treating this rather lightly. Surely there is a problem in the MMD; otherwise, people would not be resigning en masse. MP's would not be risking their seats and resigning. There must be some problem that you must look into.

[Sata] Which country has no problems? But you see, this is a new democracy; people know they have the freedom. If they are not tolerant enough, they resign. You can't stop (?them from) resigning.

[Hazeley] But there is no smoke without fire, Mr. Sata. People have been complaining for quite a while about corruption creeping into this new government of yours. They have time and time again talked about drug trafficking. Aren't you taking any action to investigate this?

[Sata] We have taken all the measures; we have appealed to these people; we have begged them. We have appealed to these people publicly—the president and everybody. We have told them: Produce the evidence. Corruption is a very serious offense. Drug trafficking is a very serious offense, and if those people are not cowards, why don't

they come out in the open or publish in the newspaper the people who are corrupt, the people who are drug trafficking. There is freedom now in the press in Zambia. They can even go to the WEEKLY POST, which is owned by some of the people who have resigned. But you don't just go rumormongering about corruption. That's democracy; that's transparency. [end recording]

ANC Denies Training Military Cadres in Country

*MB1908081493 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0737
GMT 19 Aug 93*

[Text] Lusaka Aug 19 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] in Lusaka has vehemently refuted Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi's claims that it trained military cadres in Zambia.

Zambian Government chief spokesman Dr Remmy Mushota said the government would investigate the allegations before reacting.

The ANC's Lusaka representative Japhet Ndlovu accused chief Buthelezi of trying to sour the existing good relations between Zambia and his organisation. "We have always enjoyed good relations with the Zambian Government, and I don't know why he should come here to try to spoil the harmonious situation."

However, he admitted that Zambia had been a transit point for guerrillas. He also conceded that Uganda had trained ANC cadres during the liberation war against apartheid.

Niger

Nigeria's Babangida Arrives for Joint Cooperation Meeting

AB1908111693 *Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English* 1030 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Nigerian President General Ibrahim Babangida is in Niamey, Niger Republic, to attend the meeting of the highest authority of the Niger-Nigeria Joint Commission for Cooperation. The meeting is expected to identify new areas of bilateral cooperation in the spirit of South-South cooperation. Before returning to Abuja later today, Gen. Babangida is expected to commission a new chancery of the Nigerian Embassy and meet members of the Nigerian community in Niamey.

[Paris AFP in French in a Niamey-dated item at 1047 GMT on 19 August reports the following: "Nigerian Head of State Ibrahim Babangida, who arrived here this morning on a 24-hour visit, confirmed his offer to resign and explained that he was 'ready to step down in a few days.' In a brief statement to the media in Hausa, he said: 'I am ready to step down in a few days if my resignation can help restore peace and calm in the country.' He further said that 'a transitional government charged with leading the country to new free and democratic elections will be set up.' In reply to a question, President Babangida said that 'political parties will not be banned' in Nigeria."]

Nigeria

Further on Babangida Offer To Resign, Political Situation

Mbu: Military Must Decide on Offer

AB1808212193 *Paris AFP in English* 2059 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Excerpts] Lagos, Aug 18 (AFP)—The military must now decide to accept or reject General Ibrahim Babangida's offer to step aside as president of Nigeria, Foreign Affairs Secretary Matthew Tawo Mbu told diplomats here Wednesday [18 August].

"I believe the president has a constituency. This constituency is of course basically the military," he said. Mbu said he believed that when the junta leader made his offer to resign Tuesday, he was addressing himself to Nigeria's senior military officers.

The secretary was replying to the only question asked at a briefing he gave to accredited diplomats on the situation following Babangida's offer, which comes amid continuing crisis since the junta leader annulled a presidential election held June. Jamaican High Commissioner Dudley Thompson had asked Mbu who or which body would accept or reject General Babangida's offer to step aside. [passage omitted]

Replying on behalf of his colleagues at the briefing, the dean of the diplomatic corps, Samir Bakir of Palestine, said they were hopeful that a proposed interim government would "pave the way" for installation of a democratically-elected president. [passage omitted]

President's Speech Referred to Committee

AB1908102793 *Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English* 0900 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] The Senate has referred President Ibrahim Babangida's speech to the joint committee of the National Assembly for deliberation. The decision to refer the president's speech to the committee of the whole House was a retraction of an earlier one by the Senate president, Dr. Iyorchia Ayu, that the president's speech should be discussed by an ad hoc committee.

Dr. Ayu was forced to withdraw his decision by some senators who felt that referring the president's speech to an ad hoc committee rather than discussing it on the floor of the House would amount to trivializing the issue. They further argued that the prevailing political situation and the time given to the senators to critically study the president's speech did not give room for a waste of time on deliberating on the speech.

The debate over the president's speech was provided by a motion brought by Senator Chuba Okadigbo and four others urging the Senate to appreciate the restoration of full powers of the National Assembly by President Ibrahim Babangida.

Babangida-Run Interim Government Sought

AB1908142093 *Dakar PANA in English* 1412 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Lagos, 19 Aug (PANA)—One of Nigeria's two parties, the National Republican Convention (NRC), is making moves towards making the country's military ruler Gen. Ibrahim Babangida head the interim government he has proposed.

NRC governors from Nigeria's 30 states were Thursday reported to be initiating moves to get their counterparts in the Social Democratic Party (SDP), and legislators of the two parties, to back them in their bid to have Gen. Babangida remain at the helm of affairs.

To ensure the success of their plan, NRC governors from states close to SDP controlled states have been "mandated to lobby SDP legislators" to team up with their NRC counterparts to pass a resolution calling on Babangida to head the interim government.

Gen. Babangida offered Tuesday [17 August] to resign as Nigerian president and commander in chief of the country's Armed Forces to help the country resolve its political crisis. A bipartisan meeting of representatives of the two parties was held on the subject Wednesday [18 August] in Abuja.

The Senate was on Thursday [19 August] to discuss Babangida's speech delivered on Tuesday to the joint session of the Senate and House of Representatives. It is not clear if members would be allowed to debate his staying on as head of Nigeria's interim government.

Patience, Encouragement Asked From Abroad

AB1908101393 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 0900 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Nigeria has appealed to foreign countries to be patient and to encourage her efforts at achieving the universal concept of democracy. The secretary of foreign affairs, Chief Matthew Mbu, made the appeal in Lagos yesterday while briefing members of the diplomatic corps on highlights of President Ibrahim Babangida's address to the joint session of the National Assembly. Chief Matthew Mbu said that the federal government was committed to the success of democracy at all levels and asked the envoys to be enlisted in what he called Nigeria's ambassadors of goodwill. Chief Mbu said the difficulties were not due to lack of determination or lack of genuine intention on the part of the federal government, but due to the traditional roughness of the road to democracy.

Station Questions U.S. Action on Airports, Cites Changes

AB1808223293 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Pius Ebohun commentary]

[Text] The question of safety and security at all Nigerian airports, particularly the major ones like Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos and Aminu Kano International Airport in Kano has been given full attention by the government and the authority charged with the running of airports. As of today, so much has

been put in place at Murtala Muhammed International Airport to ensure that the level of safety and security there does not fall below international standard.

It may suffice to mention just a few of the facilities installed at the airport to enhance safety. For example, the screening equipment, which is there for the detection of dangerous metals and weapons used in hijacking. A new conveyor belt has also been provided to facilitate the movement of passengers. It is interesting to note that because of these measures the American Embassy in Lagos wrote a few months ago to say that security at the airport had improved considerably. Most travelers have also expressed appreciation for the tremendous improvement that has been recorded in respect of services provided at the airport. And, more importantly, the International Air Transport Association recently renewed its confidence in the safety of Nigerian airspace.

It is against this background that the recent announcement by the United States of the suspension of direct air links with Nigeria becomes baffling. The United States anchored the decision on what it called inadequate security at Murtala Muhammed International Airport. However, the decision is seen by many observers as unwarranted because the facts on the ground do not justify it. It is inescapable, therefore, for one to come to the conclusion that the action of the United States was motivated by a desire to impose sanctions against Nigeria at all cost because of the internal political problems in the country. One of the many consequences of the American action is the imposition of unnecessary difficulties on air travelers between the two countries.

There is surely a need for a thinking over this and similar issues. While it cannot be claimed that the security and safety arrangements at Murtala Muhammed International Airport are a 100-percent fool-proof, the efforts of the Nigerian authorities to improve on existing measures deserve encouragement rather than condemnation by the United States.

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